



Repeater: NØDX 145.190 MHz (Input 144.590 / Tone 192.8 Hz)


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The Eastern Iowa DX Bulletin

Number 236, August 23, 2024

Craig Fastenow, KØCF, Editor

This bulletin is a compilation of **currently active** DX operations (or those that will become active within the current week) from recent issues of the three DX bulletins listed below and other sources. Credit for the source is given at the end of each article.

Articles are ordered by the entity's callsign prefix from the *ARRL DXCC Entities List*. Callsigns used are in **bold** with dates of operation highlighted in **red**. Clickable links are provided for QSL and other information wherever possible. Note that articles may be edited for grammar, language, style and accuracy and will remain in *The Bulletin* while active; articles that are announcements of ongoing operations, or that have no specified end date, will be removed after three weeks.

Also included is a [Propagation](#) section, updated daily; and a [Contest Calendar](#) of upcoming popular contests.

DX News items are courtesy of:

The ARRL DX Bulletin

The bulletin is available at <http://www.arrl.org>

425 DX News, A.R.I. DX Bulletin (425DXN)

Edited by Mauro Pregliasco, I1JQJ & Valeria Pregliasco, IK1ADH

425 DX News Home Page: <https://www.425dxn.org/>

425 DX News Google Group: <https://groups.google.com/g/425eng>

DX Newsletter (DXNL)

Edited by Andreas Salder, DK5ON

A weekly service of DARC Committee "DX", <http://www.darcdxhf.de>

Ohio-Penn DX Bulletin (OPDX)

Edited by Tedd Mirgliotta, KB8NW. Although OPDX is no longer published as a weekly bulletin, Tedd still sends DX news emails.

We will occasionally publish some of them.

Propagation data is from:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's

[Space Weather Prediction Center](#)

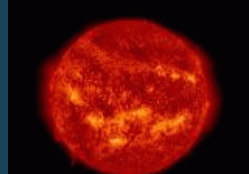
Dr. Tony Phillips' SpaceWeather.com, used by permission

Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)



Solar-Terrestrial Data

24 Aug 2024 1713 GMT
 SFI: 242 SN: 168
 A-Index: 7
 K-Index: 2
 X-Ray: C3.4
 304A: 156.8 @ SEM
 Ptn Flx: 18
 Elc Flx: 993
 Aurora: 2/n=1.99
 Mag (Bz): 2.9
 Solar Wind: 391.8
 Geomag Field QUIET
 Sig Noise Lvl S1-S2
 Current Solar Image



<http://www.nonbh.com>
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DX News

3W, VIETNAM. Greg, F4BPO, active as **XV9BPO** since 2019, now also uses the callsign **XV9Q** from Saigon and from the beach. QSL direct via [N4GNR](#).

-[DXNL # 2419 August 14, 2024] (0816-0906)

4W, TIMOR-LESTE. Alan, VK1AO will be QRV again as **4W/VK1AO** from Timor Leste from **August 19th to September 4th**, including activity from POTA sites and from Mt. Ramelau (Tatamailau), the highest peak in Timor-Leste. Usually, he operates mainly FT8 on 40-12 meters. See

<https://www.qrz.com/db/4W/VK1AO> for more information. QSL via LoTW, eQSL and [ClubLog's OQRS](#).
-[425DXN # 1736 August 10, 2024] (0816-0906)

5H, TANZANIA. Uli, DO4UB will be QRV as **5H2MUA** from Arusha **beginning August 20th**. QSL via [DO2HQS](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 30 August 15, 2024] (0816-0906)

5Z, KENYA. Mark, VK3XB, is currently back on the air as **5Z4XB** from Nairobi. He is in Australia during July, but then returns to Kenya **in August**. QSL via [VK3WIA](#).

-[DXNL # 2412 June 26, 2024] (0726-0830)

8Q, MALDIVES. Zhao, BG4JMI, currently works on the Maldives and uses the callsign **8Q7JM** during his spare time. He is due to stay for several years but has to renew his callsign every three months. QSL via [BG4JMI](#), LoTW.

-[DXNL # 2420 August 21, 2024] (0823-0913)

9G, GHANA. Adam, M6NXW, will be active as **9G5AS** from Breman, Ghana from **August 26th to September 5th**. He will operate QRP on 20-10 meters SSB, FT8 and FT4. QSOs will be uploaded to eQSL, QRZ Logbook and HRD Log. No LoTW and no paper QSL cards will be provided.

-[425DXN # 1737 August 17, 2024] (0823-0906)

9M6, EAST MALAYSIA. Celebrating the 61st Sabah Day (August 31st) and Malaysia Day (September 16th), special callsign **9M61S** will be active from **August 23rd to September 16th**. QSL direct to P.O. Box 20469, 88761 Luyang, Sabah, Malaysia.

-[425DXN # 1738 August 24, 2024] (0823-0920)

CN, MOROCCO. Taking part in the annual Youth Day's celebrations, members of the Association Royale des Radioamateurs du Maroc (ARRAM) will be using the **special prefix 5E61** on **August 17th-25th**, while the national society will be running the special event station **5E61FJ**. Celebrated on the birthday of the reigning monarch (August 21st), Youth Day (Fete de la Jeunesse) is a public holiday in honor of the contribution of the youth to the Kingdom. QSL via [CN8WW](#).

-[425DXN # 1736 August 10, 2024] (0816-0830)

CY9, ST. PAUL I. A group of operators will be QRV as **CY9C** from **August 26th to September 5th**.

Activity will be on 160 to 6 meters using CW, SSB, RTTY, and SuperFox FT8. This includes some EME and Satellite activity. QSL via [WA4DAN](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 31 August 22, 2024] (0823-0906)

D4, CAPE VERDE. Alex, SQ9UM will be active holiday style as **D4UM** from Sal Island (AF-086), Cape Verde on **August 16th-26th**. He will operate CW, SSB, FT8 and FT4 on 80-6 meters. QSOs will be uploaded to ClubLog. QSL via [SQ9UM](#).

-[425DXN # 1737 August 17, 2024] (0816-0830)

DL, GERMANY. Members of DARC's Ortsverband Greifswald (DLØHGW) will be active as **DL25ØCDF** from **August 1st to September 30th**. The special callsign marks the 250th anniversary since the birth of the painter Caspar David Friedrich, an icon of the German Romantic movement. A certificate will be available, see <https://dl0hgw.darc.de/dl250cdf.htm> for information. All QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau, eQSL and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1733 July 20, 2024] (0726-0927)

DXCC TOP TWENTY. Here are the top 20 entities on ClubLog's "DXCC Most Wanted" list as of August 23, 2024:

1. P5	DPRK (North Korea)	11. ZS8	Prince Edward & Marion Islands
2. BS7H	Scarborough Reef	12. KH4	Midway Island
3. CEØX	San Felix Islands	13. VKØM	Macquarie Island
4. BV9P	Pratas Island	14. PYØS	Saint Peter And Paul Rocks
5. KH7K	Kure Island	15. KP5	Desecheo Island
6. KH3	Johnston Island	16. VPØS	South Sandwich Islands
7. 3Y/P	Peter 1 Island	17. KH5	Palmyra & Jarvis Islands
8. FT5/X	Kerguelen Island	18. ZL9	New Zealand Subantarctic Islands
9. YVØ	Aves Island	19. FK/C	Chesterfield Islands
10. 3Y/B	Bouvet Island	20. VKØH	Heard Island

For the complete list, see <https://clublog.org/mostwanted.php>
 -[KØCF August 23, 2024 (0823-0913)

E5/S, SOUTH COOK IS. Bob, ZL1RS will be active again as **E51EME** from Rarotonga (OC-013, grid BG08cs), South Cook Islands from **August 23rd to September 15th**. He will focus on 6m FT8 via ionospheric propagation, with 6m EME using Q65-60A as his secondary objective. See <https://www.qrz.com/db/E51EME> for more information and updates. QSL via [ClubLog's QQRS](#) and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1737 August 17, 2024] (0823-0920)

EK, ARMENIA. Artem, R2GEO is QRV as **EK/R2GEO** from Yerevan. Activity is on 40 and 20 meters using SSB and various digital modes. QSL to [R2GEO](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 31 August 22, 2024] (0823-0913)

F, FRANCE. Members of the RadioPole Associatif REF-40 (F4KLM) will be active as **TM4ØIPC** from **August 28th to September 8th** during the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games. Several other special callsigns are expected to be active during the event, including TM2Ø24JPP, TM2Ø24PG, TM24JPO, TM24JPP, TM42JP, TM51JP, TM63PARA, TM67PR, TM77PO, TM78OGP. QSL TM4ØIPC via [F6DZU](#) and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1738 August 24, 2024] (0823-0913)

F, FRANCE. The radio club F4KIR from Saint Malo uses the callsigns **TM8ØCAL** (during **August**) and **TM8ØLCA** (during **September**) to commemorate their city's liberation 80 years ago. QSL via [F5BNJ](#).

-[DXNL # 2419 August 14, 2024] (0816-0927)

F, FRANCE. Vitaly, F4WBU will be active as **TM2Ø24PG** on **August 12, 19 and 26**, and again from **August 28th to September 8th** during the 17th Summer Paralympic Games. All QSOs will be confirmed via the bureau.

-[425DXN # 1736 August 10, 2024] (0809-0913)

F, FRANCE. The Radio Club du Val d'Issole (F8KGH) will be active as **TM8ØDP** from **August 9th to 27th** to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the landing operation ("Debarquement de Provence") of the Allied invasion of Provence during World War II (August 15, 1944). They will operate SSB, CW and digital modes on 80-6 meters, and via QO-100. QSL via the bureau, eQSL, QRZ Logbook.

-[425DXN # 1735 August 3, 2024] (0809-0830)

F, FRANCE. Michel, F8GGZ will be active as **TM24JOL** from **July 26th to August 11th**, and as **TM24JPO** from **August 28th to September 8th** for the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games, respectively. QSL via [F8GGZ](#).

Several other callsigns are expected to be active during the Summer Olympics, including

TM1ØØOG operated by Team TM3P; QSL direct to [F5PYI](#)

TM17JO operated by Jean-Claude, F1HOM from Re Island (EU-032);
 QSL via the bureau

TM2Ø24JO operated by members of Radio Club d'Esquerdes. QSL via
[F5KAI](#).

TM24PRS operated by F4DTO and F4GFE; QSL via [F4DTO](#)

TM36JO operated by members of the Association des radioamateurs
 de l'Indre; QSL via the bureau, or direct to [F5OHM](#)

TM37JO operated by F4ENK, F4ERS, F5CWU, F5SQM and F6FYA; QSL via
 F5CWU's OQRS (<https://www.f5cwu.net/oqrs/>)

TM4ØJO operated by members of the RadioPole Associatif REF-40
 (F4KLM); QSL via [F6DZU](#) and LoTW

TM73JO operated by F6HQP; QSL via the bureau, LoTW, QRZ Logbook

TM8JOP operated by Yves, F8LLA, one of the 45,000 volunteers who
 will support the Olympics

-[425DXN # 1733 July 20, 2024] (0726-0906)

F, FRANCE. In addition to earlier lists, the following special event stations are also active around the Olympic Games:

- * **TM5FO**, August 26th, Dept. 80 (Somme)
 - * **TM51JP**, August 28th-Sept. 8th, Dept. 51 (Marne); QSL via F5JYD.
 - * **TM4ØIPC**, August 28th-Sept. 8th, Dept. 40 (Landes)
 - * **TM24JPO**, August 28th-Sept. 8th, Dept. 71 (Saone et Loire)
- [DXNL # 2417 July 31, 2024] (0802-0906)

FG, GUADELOUPE. Thierry, F4IDN is QRV as **FG/F4IDN** near Capesterre Belle Eau until September 15th. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using SSB and digital modes. This includes being active from POTA site GP0001. QSL to [F4IDN](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 31 August 22, 2024] (0823-0920)

FO, FRENCH POLYNESIA. Yann, F1SMB will be active again as **FO/F1SMB** from French Polynesia from August 15th to September 15th. His main QTH will be Tahiti (OC-046), with a side trip to Fakarava (OC-066). Usually, he operates FT8 and SSB 40-10 meters. QSL via [F1SMB](#), LoTW, eQSL.

-[425DXN # 1736 August 10, 2024] (0809-0920)

FP, ST. PIERRE & MIQUELON. Thomas, DC8TM, and his wife Martina, DF3TS, will be active from St Pierre (NA-027) as **FP/DC8TM** and **FP/DF3TS** from August 24th to September 16th, including POTA and SOTA locations. For a detailed schedule see: <https://www.qrz.com/db/DC8TM>. QSL via [DC8TM](#) and [DF3TS](#).

-[DXNL # 2420 August 21, 2024] (0823-0920)

GM, SCOTLAND. Members of the Unicom Radio Club are QRV with special event call sign **GB1URC** until September 4th to mark the official introduction of the club to the amateur radio community. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL direct to [GB1URC](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 29 August 8, 2024] (0809-0906)

I, ITALY. Celebrating Pesaro Capitale Italiana della Cultura (Italian Capital of Culture) 2024, members of ARI Pesaro and ARI Fano will be active as **I16CIC** from June 1st to August 29th. QSL via [I16CIC](#).

-[425DXN # 1725 May 25, 2024] (0531-0830)

K, UNITED STATES. Matt, AF2F has been active from Long Beach Island (NA-111) since August 19th and will remain there "for a few weeks". In his spare time, he is QRV as **AF2F/2** on 40-10 meters CW and FT8. QSL via LoTW, [ClubLog's OQRS](#), or [AF2F](#).

-[425DXN # 1738 August 24, 2024] (0823-0913)

K, UNITED STATES. Howie, **K1VSJ**, has been operating from Martha's Vineyard (NA-046) since July 27th and will continue to do so until September 4th. QSL via [K1VSJ](#).

-[DXNL # 2418 August 7, 2024] (0809-0906)

KH8, AMERICAN SAMOA. Rikk, WE9G is QRV as **WE9G/KH8** from Tutuila (OC-045) until August 29th. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using mostly FT8. QSL to [WE9G](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 30 August 15, 2024] (0816-0830)

LY, LITHUANIA. Special callsigns **LY35BW** and **LY35A** will be active until August 31st to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the Baltic Way. On August 23, 1989, hundreds of thousands of people formed a human chain spanning across Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, demanding the reestablishment of the independence of the Baltic States. A special award will be available, see

<https://www.qrz.com/db/LY35BW> for the details.

-[425DXN # 1735 August 3, 2024] (0802-0830)

OE, AUSTRIA. Celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Rhein Ruhr DX Association (<https://rrdxa.org/>), Tom, OE4EIE is active as **OE4RRDXA** from July 1st to September 30th. QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW and ClubLog; paper QSL cards will not be available.

-[425DXN # 1731 July 6, 2024] (0705-0927)

OE, AUSTRIA. Special callsign **OE7ØVIE** marks the 70th anniversary of Vienna International Airport (IATA code VIE) from June 21st to September 30th. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#) (preferred), LoTW in due course, or via [OE6VIE](#).

-[425DXN # 1729 June 22, 2024] (0621-0927)

OHØ, ALAND IS. Martti, OH2BH will be QRV as **OHØB** on **August 24th and 25th**. Activity will be on the HF bands using CW. QSL to [OH2BH](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 31 August 22, 2024] (0823-0830)

OJØ, MARKET REEF. Henri, OH3JR is QRV as **OJØJR** until **August 24th**. Activity is in his spare time on 40 to 10 meters using CW and FT8. QSL via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 31 August 22, 2024] (0823-0830)

OM, SLOVAK REPUBLIC. Special station **OM8ØSNP** will be active on **August 1st-31st** commemorating the 80th anniversary of the Slovak National Uprising (Slovenske Narodne Povstanie) during World War II. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#), LoTW, or via [OM2FY](#).

-[425DXN # 1734 July 27, 2024] (0726-0830)

OX, GREENLAND. Bo, OZ1DJJ, is currently on Thule (NA-018) and operates as **OX3LX** during his spare time.

-[DXNL # 2419 August 14, 2024] (0816-0906)

OY, FAROE IS. Jim, WT8P, signs **OY/WT8P** from **August 28th to September 3rd**. QSL via [EA5GL](#).

-[DXNL # 2419 August 14, 2024] (0823-0906)

OZ, DENMARK. The following special event callsigns celebrate the 60th anniversary of IOTA **until the end of August**:

OZ6ØIOTA (mainland),
5P6ØIOTA/Ø (EU-030),
5P6ØIOTA/1 (EU-171),
5P6ØIOTA/2 (EU-172),
5P6ØIOTA/5 (EU-125),
5P6ØIOTA/8 (EU-088),
5P6ØIOTA/9 (EU-029).

For a schedule of activities see: <https://www.supersaas.dk/schedule/EDR/OZ60IOTA>. A number of certificates will be available, see <https://www.qrz.com/db/OZ60IOTA> for complete information. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#) (preferred), LoTW, or via [OZ1ACB](#).

-[DXNL # 2413 July 3, 2024] (0705-0830)

S7, SEYCHELLES. Holger, DG3FEH will be active holiday style as **S79/DG3FEH** from Mahe (AF-024), Seychelles on **August 15th-27th**. He will operate SSB mainly on 40, 20, 15 meters and QO-100. QSL via the bureau to [DG3FEH](#).

-[425DXN # 1737 August 17, 2024] (0816-0830)

SV, GREECE. Francesco, IK6QON will be QRV as **SV8/IK6QON** from Milos Island (EU-067) **until August 31st**. Activity is holiday style on the HF bands. QSL to [IK6QON](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 31 August 22, 2024] (0823-0830)

TF, ICELAND. Jim, WT8P, signs **TF/WT8P** from **August 17th to 28th**. QSL via [EA5GL](#).

-[DXNL # 2419 August 14, 2024] (0816-0830)

TK, CORSICA. Herve, F4LDJ is QRV as **TK/F4LDJ** until **August 31st**. Activity is holiday style on 40, 20, and 10 meters using SSB. QSL via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 31 August 22, 2024] (0823-0830)

TK, CORSICA. Tony, ON5AG, will be active as **TK/ON5AG** on **August 16th to 29th** from Santa Maria Poggio (EU-014).

-[DXNL # 2419 August 14, 2024] (0816-0830)

TK, CORSICA. Frans, DJØTP is QRV as **TK/DJØTP** until **September 4th**. QSL to [DJØTP](#) and LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 28 August 1, 2024] (0802-0906)

TU, COTE D'IVOIRE. Mustafa, TA2YGT is QRV as **TU/TA2YGT** from Abidjan **until September 16th**. Activity is in his spare time mostly on 20 meters using SSB and FT8, and on Satellite QO-100. QSL

direct to [TA2YGT](#), LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 29 August 8, 2024] (0809-0920)

TZ, MALI. Jeff, K1MMB is QRV as **TZ4AM** from Bamako **until the end of August**. Activity of late has been on 17 meters using CW around 1900z. QSL to [K1MMB](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 30 August 15, 2024] (0816-0830)

UA9, ASIATIC RUSSIA. Mikhail, RA1ALA and Valery, RA9J will be active as **RIØKA** from Ayon Island (AS-038) on **August 13th to 27th**. They will have two transceivers with 1.2 kW and vertical and inverted V antennas for activity on 40-10 meters. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#), or via [RZ3EC](#).

-[425DXN # 1735 August 3, 2024] (0809-0830)

V5, NAMIBIA. Andreas, DB8UX is QRV as **V51/DB8UX**. Activity is on the HF bands using FT8. His length of stay is unknown. QSL to [DB8UX](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 31 August 22, 2024] (0823-0913)

V7, MARSHALL IS. Lisa, KJ6GHN, a Navy veteran, works on Kwajalein (OC-028) and operates during her spare time, mostly on Sundays and Mondays as **V73ML**. QSL via qrz.com.

-[DXNL # 2419 August 14, 2024] (0816-0906)

VE, CANADA. Thomas, DC8TM and Martina, DF3TS will be QRV as **VO1/DC8TM/p** and **VO1/DF3TS/p**, respectively, from Newfoundland (NA-027) from **August 24th to September 16th**. Activity will be on the HF bands using SSB and FT8 from various POTA, SOTA, and Lighthouse sites. QSL via LoTW, eQSL or direct to [DC8TM](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 31 August 22, 2024] (0823-0830)

VU, INDIA. Kaustav, VU2UUU is QRV with special call sign **AT2SPACE** **until August 31st** to commemorate India's National Space Day. QSL to [VU2UUU](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 31 August 22, 2024] (0823-0830)

VU, INDIA. Special event station **AT78I** is QRV **until November 13th** to celebrate 78 years of independence for India. Activity is on the HF bands using CW and SSB. QSL via [VU2JOS](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 31 August 22, 2024] (0823-1115)

XE, MEXICO. Once again special callsign **4A2MAX** will be activated on **August 1st-31st** in remembrance of St. Maximilian Maria Kolbe. Activity will be on various bands SSB, CW and digital modes. Born in 1894, Father Kolbe (SP3RN) was killed on August 14, 1941, at Auschwitz. QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW, eQSL, QRZ Logbook and ClubLog. See <https://www.qrz.com/db/4a2max> for more information. QSL via [EA5GL](#).

-[425DXN # 1736 August 10, 2024] (0809-0830)

YJ, VANUATU. Luke VK3HJ, Chris VK3QB, Patrick VK2PN and Olgierd VK5XDX will be active as **YJØVK** from Efate (OC-035), Vanuatu on **August 20th-27th**. They will operate CW and FT8 on 40-6 meters. They will try to keep their FB page up to date: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61555552575381>. QSOs will be uploaded to ClubLog. QSL via [MØOXO's OQRS](#).

-[425DXN # 1737 August 17, 2024] (0816-0830)

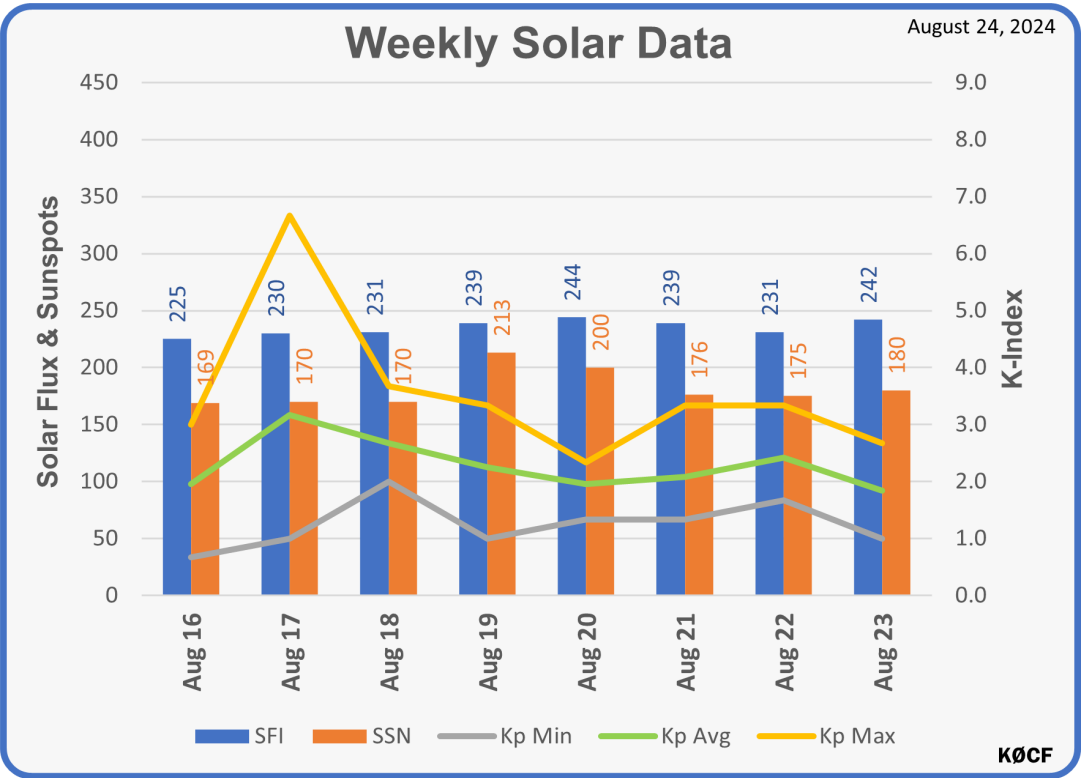
YL, LATVIA. Special event callsign **YL35WAY** will be active on **August 23rd-31st** to commemorate the 35th anniversary of the Baltic Way. On August 23, 1989, hundreds of thousands of people formed a human chain spanning across Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania, demanding the reestablishment of the independence of the Baltic States. See <https://qsl.services/event/YL35WAY> for downloadable certificates and QSLs. QSL via LoTW, eQSL, and QRZ Logbook.

-[425DXN # 1738 August 24, 2024] (0823-0830)

YO, ROMANIA. Special callsign **YQ6ØYODXC** celebrates the 60th anniversary of the YO DX Club **until August 31st**. A number of certificates will be available, see <https://www.qrz.com/db/YQ6ØYODXC> for the details.

-[425DXN # 1735 August 3, 2024] (0802-0830)

Propagation (Updated daily)



The Weekly Solar Data chart plots Solar Flux Index (SFI), Sunspot number (SSN) and Planetary K-index (Kp) for the past 8 days. With 8 Planetary K-index readings each day, only the minimum, average and maximum K-index values are plotted. **Note:** You may click [here](#) or on the chart above to see the same data for the past month.

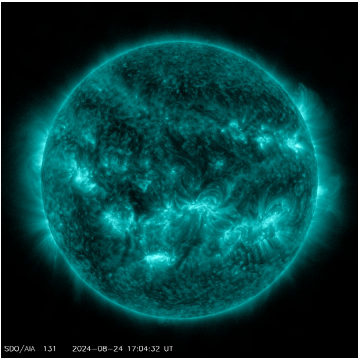
The Daily Solar Flux Index, Sunspot number, Planetary K-index, Solar Flux predictions and Solar Flare data used in this bulletin have been collected by KØCF from the U.S. Department of Commerce's NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center.

The propagation graphs above are the creations of KØCF and are unique in space weather reporting.

Please Note: The graphs are high resolution .PNG files which you may view in greater detail using your browser's "zoom" feature. Alternatively, right click on the graph and select "Open Image in New Tab" to enlarge it, or "Save Image As..." to save it to your computer for further analysis.

NASA's current view of the Sun at a wave-length of 131 Angstroms. This wavelength shows incredible solar detail.

Click [here](#) or on the image to view as a full screen 48-hour video loop. It is fascinating!



Propagation Summary

For the 8 day period from Friday, August 16th through yesterday, August 23rd.

The average solar flux was 237, down 21 points from the previous week, with a weekly high of 244 on Tuesday, August 20th, following a low of 225 on August 16th.

The average sunspot count was 183, down by 16 from last week, peaking at 213 on Monday, August 19th after a weekly low of 169 on August 16th.

The Planetary K-index weekly average was 3.5 with a maximum of 6.7 on Saturday, August 17th, resulting in moderate geomagnetic storm conditions. Yesterday's K-index maximum was 2.7 with generally quiet conditions.

Solar flare activity since August 17th has been extremely high with 20 major flares, the largest of which was an M 5.1 event on Friday, August 23rd.

Propagation Data

Major solar flares, Saturday, August 17th through 1304 UTC, August 24th.

#	Date	UTC	Mag.
1	Aug 24	0014	M 1.6
2	Aug 23	2012	M 5.1
3	Aug 23	1944	M 3.4
4	Aug 23	1645	M 1.1
5	Aug 23	1505	M 1.7
6	Aug 23	1357	M 1.7
7	Aug 23	0341	M 3.4
8	Aug 22	1039	M 1.5
9	Aug 21	2208	M 5.1
10	Aug 21	0602	M 1.1
11	Aug 20	1708	M 1.3
12	Aug 20	0448	M 1.2
13	Aug 19	2152	M 3.7
14	Aug 19	0936	M 1.3
15	Aug 18	2107	M 1.3
16	Aug 18	0730	M 1.2
17	Aug 18	0416	M 1.1
18	Aug 18	0204	M 2.4
19	Aug 17	1144	M 1.1
20	Aug 17	1033	M 1.6

(NOAA's graph of recent flare activity: [GOES-X-Ray-Flux](#))

From the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center, here are the probabilities of major solar flares and the predicted 10.7 cm Solar Flux for the next 3 days. NOAA updates this information daily.

Date	M-Flares	X-Flares	Solar Flux
Aug 24	70%	15%	245
Aug 25	70%	15%	250
Aug 26	70%	15%	260

Looking farther ahead, here is the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center forecast of 10.7 cm radio flux and maximum Planetary K-index (Kp) for the next 12 days. This data is updated by NOAA every

Monday (last updated on August 19, 2024).

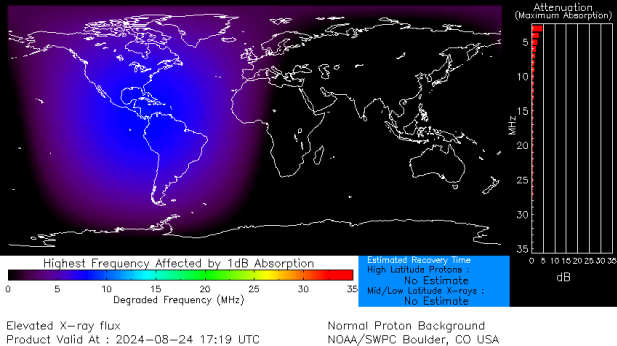
Date	Flux	Kp
Aug 24	200	2
Aug 25	205	2
Aug 26	210	2
Aug 27	205	2

Date	Flux	Kp
Aug 28	200	2
Aug 29	205	2
Aug 30	205	2
Aug 31	210	2

Date	Flux	Kp
Sep 1	215	2
Sep 2	220	2
Sep 3	220	2
Sep 4	225	2

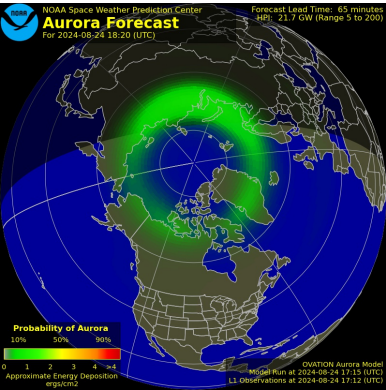
Global D Region Absorption

Conditions in the D-region of the ionosphere have a dramatic effect on HF communications. The D-Region Absorption map combines the effects of solar particles and photons. Yellow to red colors on the map depict increasing signal attenuation, where the bar chart at the right displays attenuation versus frequency. Click the thumbnail below for an animated map of D-Region Absorption:



The Aurora Borealis

The aurora is not only beautiful to see but can have a profound impact on HF and VHF radio propagation. For the HF operator, auroras can result in a complete shut-down of propagation. However, on VHF, auroras present interesting DX possibilities. Beam antennas are very desirable and should be pointed north, towards the aurora. Signals are reflected by “back-scatter” and will be distorted with a rough buzz. SSB is the best voice mode to use, but copy can be difficult. CW will have a rough buzzy sound but be perfectly copyable. Click the thumbnail below for an animated map of aurora versus time:



Highs for Cycle 25

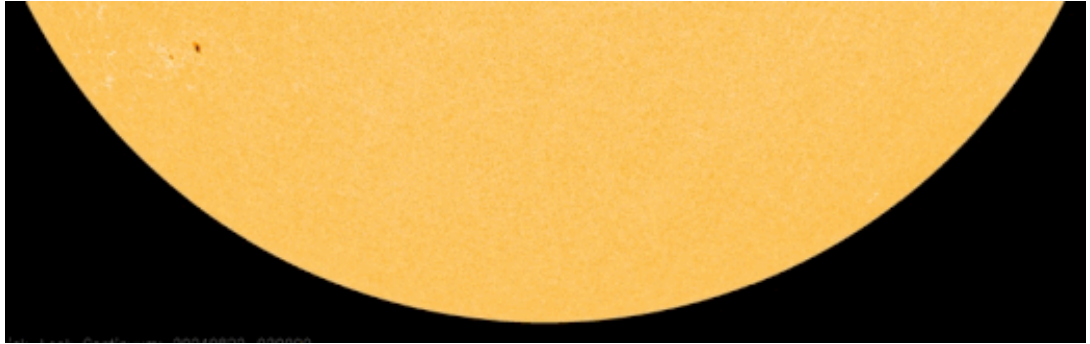
Solar Flux: 336 on August 8, 2024.
Sunspots: 382 on August 10, 2024.

A CME is Coming

But it's not a big one. The CME was hurled toward Earth during the early hours of Aug. 23rd by a puny [C6-class solar flare](#). [A NASA model](#) predicts it will arrive on Aug 26th (1800 UT). The impact could spark a minor [G1-class geomagnetic storm](#).
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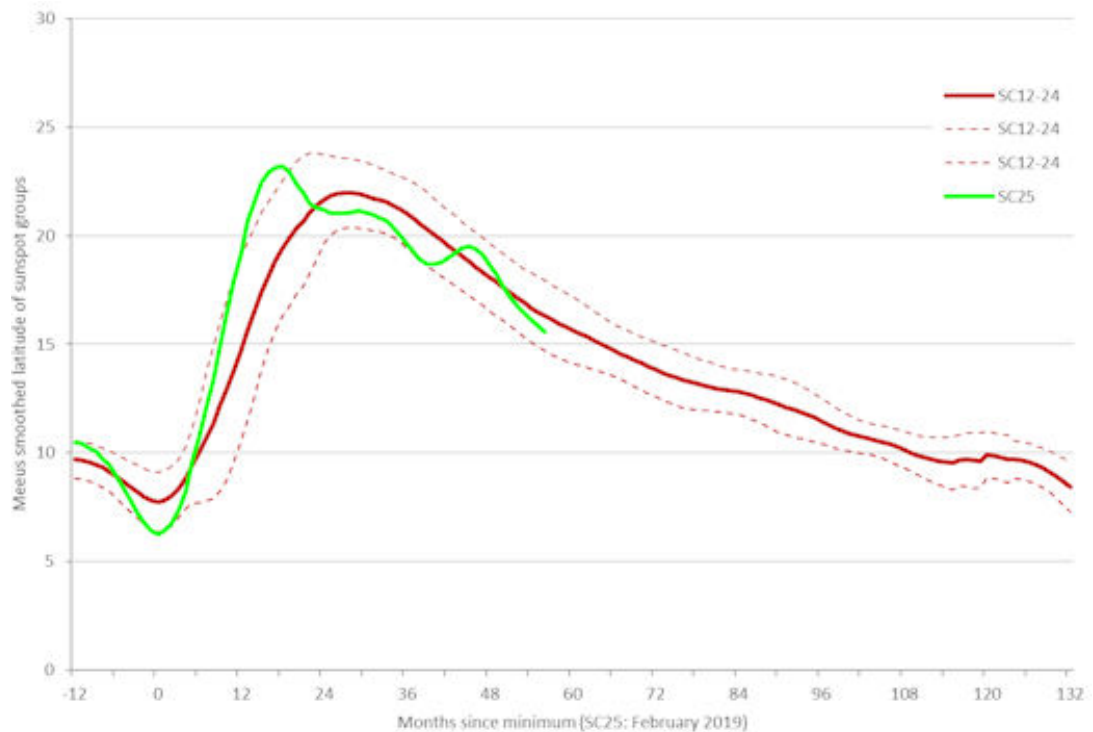
A High-Latitude Sunspot

sunspot AR3800 is not particularly big or flare-y, but it is interesting for another reason: It has a high latitude. The sunspot is growing in the southern hemisphere 27 degrees below the sun's equator:



This may not sound particularly "high". On Earth, the 27th parallel (south) crosses places such as Namibia and Australia. These are not considered high latitudes. But for sunspots, which tend to cluster around the sun's equator, 27 degrees is indeed high latitude.

So what? The potential significance of this sunspot is what it tells us about Solar Cycle 25. High latitude sunspots tend to appear early in the 11-year solar cycle, as shown in this plot from the [Solar Terrestrial Center of Excellence](https://terrestrialcenterofexcellence.org/):



As solar cycles unfold, sunspots start high, then converge toward the equator. The existence of AR3800 is an anecdotal sign that we're still in the early stages of Solar Cycle 25. If so, strong solar activity is just getting started and may last for another 2 to 3 years.

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Popular Propagation web sites

<https://prop.kc2g.com/> (Excellent Maximum Usable Frequency map)

NOAA <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/>

<https://www.spaceweather.com/>

<https://www.solarham.com/>

<https://dx.gsl.net/propagation/>

A Propagation Tutorial

The solar X-ray flux tracks solar activity and solar flares. Solar flux, which can vary from as low as 50 to as high as 300, influences the level of ionization in the F2 region of the ionosphere, providing a very good prediction of HF DX conditions. The higher the solar flux, the better conditions will be for the higher HF frequencies and even 6 meters. However, the levels need to be maintained for some days to

allow ionization in the F2 layer to build up. A solar flux of 150 results in good HF band conditions, while levels of 200 and up can provide great conditions.

Large X-ray flares on the sun can increase the ionization of the D layer of the ionosphere (a lower layer) on the sunlit side of the Earth, greatly attenuating or blocking HF radio transmissions for up to a half hour. Solar flares often produce Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) which, if Earth directed, can lead to geomagnetic storms. Some large flares are also accompanied by strong radio bursts that may interfere with other radio frequencies and cause problems for satellite communication and radio navigation (GPS).

The Planetary K-index is a measure of the magnitude of geomagnetic storms and is an excellent indicator of disturbances in the Earth's magnetic field. A level of 1 or 2 represents quiet geomagnetic conditions; a reading of 3 or 4 may cause some propagation deterioration; 5 and 6 are minor to moderate geomagnetic storms; and 7 to 9 are strong, severe, and extreme storm conditions. Strong geomagnetic storms can trigger Auroral displays and cause HF radio blackouts. Higher geomagnetic activity also has the adverse effect of lowering maximum usable frequencies, much like lower solar flux does.

For best conditions, the solar flux should be above 150 for a few days with the K index below 2. When these conditions are met, some good DX is likely!
-[Compiled from information on NOAA.gov and other sources]

Contest Calendar

Weekly Contests

Contest	Start UTC		End	Web Site
K1USN Slow Speed Test	Monday	0000Z	0100Z	Rules
ICWC Medium Speed Test	Monday	1300Z	1400Z	Rules
	Monday	1900Z	2000Z	
	Tuesday	0300Z	0400Z	
CWops Test (CWT)	Wednesday	1300Z	1400Z	Rules
	Wednesday	1900Z	2000Z	
	Thursday	0300Z	0400Z	
	Thursday	0700Z	0800Z	
Weekly RTTY Test	Friday	0145Z	0215Z	Rules
NCCC CW Sprint (NS)	Friday	0230Z	0300Z	Rules

Note: Start Days are in UTC, e.g. Monday at 0000 UTC is Sunday at 7:00 PM in the Central Daylight Saving Time zone, or Sunday at 6:00 PM in the Central Standard Time zone.

Full Calendar

Contest	Start		End		Web Site
Hawaii QSO Party	Aug 24	0400Z	Aug 26	0400Z	Rules
World Wide Digi DX Contest	Aug 24	1200Z	Aug 25	1200Z	Rules
YO DX HF Contest	Aug 24	1200Z	Aug 25	1200Z	Rules
Kansas QSO Party	Aug 24	1400Z	Aug 25	2000Z	Rules

Ohio QSO Party	Aug 24	1600Z	Aug 25	0400Z	Rules
UK/EI DX Contest, SSB	Aug 31	1200Z	Sep 1	1200Z	Rules
Tennessee QSO Party	Sep 1	1700Z	Sep 2	0300Z	Rules
CWOps CW Open	Sep 7	0000Z	Sep 7	2359Z	Rules
North American Sprint, CW	Sep 8	0000Z	Sep 8	0400Z	Rules
WAE DX Contest, SSB	Sep 14	0000Z	Sep 15	2359Z	Rules
ARRL September VHF Contest	Sep 14	1800Z	Sep 16	0300Z	Rules
North American Sprint, RTTY	Sep 15	0000Z	Sep 15	0400Z	Rules
Scandinavian Activity Contest, CW	Sep 21	1200Z	Sep 22	1200Z	Rules
Iowa QSO Party	Sep 21	1400Z	Sep 22	0200Z	Rules
Texas QSO Party	Sep 21	1400Z	Sep 22	0200Z	Rules
	Sep 22	1400Z	Sep 22	2000Z	
Wisconsin Parks on the Air	Sep 21	1600Z	Sep 21	2300Z	Rules
New Jersey QSO Party	Sep 21	1600Z	Sep 22	0359Z	Rules
New Hampshire QSO Party	Sep 21	1600Z	Sep 21	2200Z	Rules
	Sep 22	1600Z	Sep 22	2200Z	
Washington State Salmon Run	Sep 21	1600Z	Sep 22	0700Z	Rules
	Sep 22	1600Z	Sep 22	2400Z	
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, RTTY	Sep 28	0000Z	Sep 29	2400Z	Rules
Maine QSO Party	Sep 28	1200Z	Sep 29	1200Z	Rules
Oceania DX Contest, Phone	Oct 5	0600Z	Oct 6	0600Z	Rules
California QSO Party	Oct 5	1600Z	Oct 6	2200Z	Rules
Makrothen RTTY Contest	Oct 12	0000Z	Oct 13	1559Z	Rules
Nevada QSO Party	Oct 12	0300Z	Oct 13	2100Z	Rules
Oceania DX Contest, CW	Oct 12	0600Z	Oct 13	0600Z	Rules
Scandinavian Activity Contest, SSB	Oct 12	1200Z	Oct 13	1200Z	Rules
Arizona QSO Party	Oct 12	1500Z	Oct 13	0500Z	Rules
Pennsylvania QSO Party	Oct 12	1600Z	Oct 13	0400Z	Rules
	Oct 13	1300Z	Oct 13	2200Z	
South Dakota QSO Party	Oct 12	1800Z	Oct 13	1800Z	Rules
10-10 Int. Fall Contest, CW	Oct 19	0001Z	Oct 20	2359Z	Rules
New York QSO Party	Oct 19	1400Z	Oct 20	0200Z	Rules
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	Oct 19	1500Z	Oct 20	1500Z	Rules
Illinois QSO Party	Oct 20	1700Z	Oct 21	0100Z	Rules
ARRL School Club Roundup	Oct 21	1300Z	Oct 25	2359Z	Rules
CQ Worldwide DX Contest, SSB	Oct 26	0000Z	Oct 27	2400Z	Rules
Ukrainian DX Contest	Nov 2	1200Z	Nov 3	1200Z	Rules
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, CW	Nov 2	2100Z	Nov 4	0300Z	Rules
WAE DX Contest, RTTY	Nov 9	0000Z	Nov 10	2359Z	Rules
10-10 Int. Fall Contest, Digital	Nov 9	0001Z	Nov 10	2359Z	Rules
JIDX Phone Contest	Nov 9	0700Z	Nov 10	1300Z	Rules

OK/OM DX Contest, CW	Nov 9	1200Z	Nov 10	1200Z	Rules
North American SSB Sprint Contest	Nov 10	0000Z	Nov 10	0400Z	Rules
LZ DX Contest	Nov 16	1200Z	Nov 17	1200Z	Rules
ARRL Sweepstakes Contest, SSB	Nov 16	2100Z	Nov 18	0300Z	Rules

-[Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)]